

1. Claims 10-12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Galitzer. Claim 14 is cancelled, thereby rendering the rejection moot with respect to that claim. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection as applied to the other claims, as amended.

Galitzer describes a cutting tip that can be used on a suture anchor (column 1, lines 63-65). Specifically, Galitzer describes a suture anchor 14 having a tip end 16, a second end 18 for attaching a suture, and a threaded body 12 (column 3, lines 36-39).

Applicants' amended independent claim 10 recites, in part, "a bone anchor . . . comprising: a generally cone-shaped head . . . and *a collar member coupled to the head.*" In distinct contrast, Galitzer does not teach or suggest such structure. Galitzer simply is silent about *a collar member coupled to the head* of a bone anchor.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 10, as amended, is allowable over Galitzer. Because claims 11 and 12 depend directly from amended independent claim 10, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are allowable as well. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Galitzer.

2. Claims 13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Galitzer in view Borzone. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection as applied to the claims, as amended.

Briefly, Borzone describes a suture anchor and an anchor driver. The suture anchor 10 includes a cutting tip 18, a treaded portion (proximal region 14), and a shaft (distal region 16) for holding a suture. See column 3, lines 1-30.

Applicants respectfully submit that the disclosure of Borzone fails to cure the deficiencies of Galitzer with respect to amended independent claim 10, as explained in paragraph 1 above. For example, Borzone fails to suggest to one skilled in the art to contemplate a "a bone anchor ... comprising: a generally cone-shaped head ... and *a collar member coupled to the head.*"

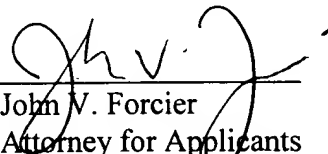
Applicants, therefore, submit that neither Galitzer nor Borzone, alone or in proper combination, provides the teaching, suggestion, or motivation for one skilled in the art to arrive at the bone anchor as claimed in amended independent claim 10.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 13 and 15, which depend from amended independent claim 10, are allowable over Galitzer in view of Borzone. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 13 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on these references.

3. Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claim 16, which depends from amended independent claim 10, is patentable as a matter of law, because claim 10 is patentable at least for the reasons stated in paragraph 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of claim 16 in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED UP VERSION OF CLAIM SHOWING AMENDMENT

10. (Amended) A bone anchor for use with a bone anchor implantation device comprising:
a generally cone-shaped head having a wide end, a narrow end, and at least two cutting edges wherein said cutting edges come together to form a pointed tip at the narrow end and the cutting edges of the head are defined by at least one curved surface; **and**
a collar member coupled to the head.
11. (Amended) The **bone anchor device** of claim 10, wherein the head has three ~~the~~ cutting edges.
12. (Amended) The **bone anchor device** of claim 10, wherein the cutting edges comprise sharp edges.
13. (Amended) The **bone anchor device** of claim 10, wherein said bone anchor comprises titanium.
15. (Amended) The **bone anchor device** of claim 10, further comprising a shaft with an eyelet for receiving a suture, the shaft being coupled to the wide end of the head.